Chapter 31:
TRUTH

I'LL KILL YOU!

MOCKING MY PIRATE BLOOD!!

HOW DARE YOU MAKE A FOOL OF ME?

DOO DOO

KYAAA!!

I'LL KILL YOU!!!

USOPP! PLEASE STOP!

BA

BU

MP

GASP!

.....

BA-BUMP

BA-BUMP

BA-BUMP

HUF

PANT

PANT

KREEK

KOFF

KOFF

I DON'T UNDER-STAND!

WHY WOULD USOPP ACT LIKE THAT?

KLAHA-DORE? ARE YOU THERE?

KLAK

KLAK

KLAHA-DORE?

BA-

!!!?

NAMI!!!

GASP!

...!!!

ACK!!!

URGH...

MERRY!! OPEN YOUR EYES!!

WHAT HAP-PENED!!?

PLEASE DON'T DIE!!!

HUF

ANUMP!

HUF

M-MISS KAYA... THANK HEAVEN... YOU'RE ALIVE!

MERRY!!

KOFF

KOFF

KLAHA-DORE!!

HUF

HUF

HUF

OF COURSE I'M ALIVE! WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

.....!?

KLAHADORE... TRIED TO KILL ME!

KLAHADORE...

BUT...

WHY WOULD HE...

IF HE SHOULD EVER... LAY A HAND ON YOU...

I'LL HAVE FAILED YOU AND YOUR FATHER.

HE'S A...

WHAT!?

!!?

!

HE'S A PIRATE!!!

HE DISCOVERED KLAHADORE'S DECEPTION... HE WAS TRYING TO SAVE US...

IT *WAS* TRUE...

BUT...

THEN WHAT...

WHAT USOPP SAID WAS TRUE!!!

FOR NOW, I'VE GOT TO GET YOU AWAY FROM HERE!!

AND TO THINK... WE DEFENDED THAT VILLAIN...

YOU'LL FIND OUT THE TRUTH TOMOR-ROW!

NONE OF US...

NONE OF US BELIEVED HIM!!

...!!!

...!!!

A BRAVE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS READY TO DIE TO SAVE THE VILLAGE!!

AND DROVE AWAY...

WHAT HAVE I DONE!?

PLINK PLINK

I SAID THOSE AWFUL THINGS TO HIM...

PLOP

SOMEBODY HELP!! MERRY NEEDS HELP!

IT'S NO USE. EVERYONE ON THE ESTATE HAS BEEN ON VACATION SINCE YESTERDAY.

KOFF!

MERRY?

KOFF!

THERE'S STILL TIME. STAY CALM AND THINK CAREFULLY...

YOU MUSTN'T PANIC!!

NO... THEN I'LL--

!

WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES IN DANGER. THE ENTIRE VILLAGE IS TOO!

HUF HUF

HE WENT TO FETCH HIS PIRATES.

IF WHAT HE TOLD ME YESTERDAY WAS TRUE...

I SAW KLAHA-DORE LEAVING THE MANSION NOT LONG AGO...

.....

PWUMP

SWIP

ALL RIGHT!

THEY AREN'T WORTH RISKING LIVES OVER!!

THEN LET HIM HAVE IT ALL!!

IF KLAHADORE IS AFTER THIS ESTATE AND YOUR FORTUNE...

HUF HUF

ONLY YOU!

THE HARSH TRUTH IS THAT ONLY YOU CAN STOP KLAHADORE NOW.

I'M GOING TO HAVE A TALK WITH KLAHADORE!!

BUT IF I DIDN'T TRY TO STOP THIS, WHAT KIND OF PERSON WOULD I BE?

I KNOW.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS, YOU KNOW...

IT'S A TERRIBLE BURDEN.

HUF

HUF

WHAT? THE BUTT-GUY WENT TO THE BEACH!?

WELL, WE CAN'T SLEEP NOW! WE HAVE A DISASTER TO DEAL WITH!

SORRY, I'M USUALLY STILL ASLEEP AT THIS HOUR.

HEY, CARROT! WAKE UP!!

ME TOO! HE WAS ACTING REALLY WEIRD YESTERDAY.

I WAS THINKING THAT TOO.

THE CAPTAIN SAID HE WAS LYING, BUT I THINK THAT WAS A LIE!!

I THINK THE PIRATES REALLY ARE GOING TO ATTACK!

SHUF

HUF

SHUF

HUF

IT'S...

HUH!?

SHUF

SHUF

SOME-THING BAD MUST'VE HAP-PENED!!

WHY IS SHE OUT WALKING AROUND ON HER OWN!?

IT'S MISS KAYA!

Oooooo

WHO'S ON THE SHIP?

YOU GUYS ARE DEAD MEAT NOW!!

HEH HEH HEH...

ZZZ

ZZZ

COME ON DOWN!!

MEOWBAN BROTHERS!!

OF COURSE WE'LL GO!!

HOW COME THEY'RE STILL ON THE BEACH?

WHAT!? THEY'RE NOT AT THE VILLAGE YET?

HEY, THE CAPTAIN'S CALLING US!

TA-DA!!

LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE! SHALL WE GO?

LOOK! SOMEBODY BEAT THEM ALL UP!

TUMP

TUMP

READ THIS WAY

WUMP...!!

MEOWBAN BROTHERS, I NEED YOUR HELP.

WHAT IS IT?

YOU CALLED, CAPTAIN DJANGO?

SHIP GUARD BUTCHIE

SHIP GUARD SIAM

...!

WHAT *ARE* THEY?

AMAZING. THEY JUMPED FROM THAT HIGH DECK!!

LIKE CATS!

BUT, AS YOU CAN SEE, THERE'S SOMETHING IN OUR WAY. GET RID OF IT!!

BUTCHIE, SIAM... WE MUST GET UP THAT PATH!

H- HE LOOKS REALLY MEAN!!

YIKES!!

W- WE CAN'T DO THAT! CAN WE, BUTCHIE?

THEY'RE SCARED TO DEATH!

HUH?

I THOUGHT THEY WERE SOME KIND OF SECRET WEAPON!!

!

HUH!? ME!?

SIAM! ATTACK THAT SWORDSMAN AT ONCE!!

AYE! WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO TAKE PART IN ANY FIGHTS.

WE'RE JUST THE SHIP GUARDS!

WHY'S HE MAKING SOMEONE LIKE THAT FIGHT!?

HE'S STARTING TO CRY!

SOB

ALL RIGHT! I'LL GO, I'LL GO...

GET HIM!!

HE THINKS HE CAN SCRATCH ME?

...!!!

TMP TMP TMP TMP

I'LL SCRATCH YOUR EYES OUT!!

TMP TMP TMP TMP

READY OR NOT, HERE I COME!!

GO AHEAD, IF YOU CAN...

GLINT

I'LL CUT YOUR FOOL HEAD OFF IF YOU DON'T STOP!

SLASH

!!?

WHAT THE--

KA-

!!!

YOU UNDER-ESTIMATED ME, DIDN'T YOU!?

PURRR...

HEY!

...!!

I WAS JUST PRETENDING TO BE A SCAREDY-CAT.

YOU FELL FOR IT!

FWOOSH

!!

WHAT THE--!?

HUH!?

ZOLO!!

!

YOUR SWORDS!

HE'S NOT REALLY A COWARD!?

MEOW

LOSE SOME-THING, ME BUCKO?

HMPH! SEEMS YOU HAVE A BIT OF TALENT.

SOME-HOW YOUR PRETTY SWORDS ENDED UP WITH ME!

BUT YOU SHOULDN'T TAKE SIAM MEOWBAN, GUARD OF THE BLACK CAT, TOO LIGHTLY!

HE GOT MY SWORDS!!

RATS!!

...!!!

AYE, HE'S A *CAT* BUR-GLAR.

HE DID IT...

Q: HEY, DO YOU LIKE ANIMALS, SENSEI?
I GET THE FEELING THERE'S AT LEAST ONE ANIMAL ON EVERY ONE OF YOUR TITLE PAGES...

A: IT'S TRUE THAT I'VE BEEN PUTTING ANIMALS ON THE TITLE PAGES. WELL, LET'S SEE. I DO LIKE ANIMALS, BUT THE DEGREE TO WHICH I LIKE THEM IS ABOUT "AVERAGE," I THINK. BUT I DO LIKE DRAWING ANIMALS. IT'S KIND OF FUN TO DRAW FURRY ROUND SHAPES. I ESPECIALLY LIKE DRAWING STUFF LIKE PANDAS, BORN WITH WHAT LOOKS LIKE HILARIOUS MAKEUP, OR WOMBATS, WHO LOOK LIKE THEY COULD BE ON A "MOST WANTED" SIGN. OH, AND ALSO, I LIKE HOW OWLS HAVE AN EXPRESSION LIKE THEY WERE JUST HIT BY A BB GUN.

Q: ***THE DESIGN ON KLAHADORE'S SUIT THAT LOOKS LIKE POOP...IS THAT REALLY POOP? OR IS THERE SOME OTHER SIGNIFICANCE?***

A: IT'S POOP.

Q: ***QUESTION: NAMI'S MEASUREMENTS. SERIOUSLY. PLEASE TELL ME.***

A: I SEE. YOU'RE IN EARNEST, SERIOUSLY, HUH? I UNDERSTAND. THIS IS SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW, EITHER, SO I'LL JUST GO MEASURE HER RIGHT NOW! OKAY, THEN! HERE I GO -- AAAAHH!

NAMI: MY MEASUREMENTS? REALLY?

A: N-NAMI! YOU SURPRISED ME!! PERFECT TIMING.
WELL, I'LL GET TO IT! LET'S SEE... (BONK!!) OWWWW!!

NAMI: I DON'T MIND LETTING YOU MEASURE ME... BUT IT'LL COST YA!

A: WHAT...!? H-HOW MUCH...?
WHAAAAAT? THAT MUCH!? H-HOW D'YA EXPECT ME TO BE ABLE TO PAY SUCH A SUM?
...HEH! SHE'S DISTRACTED! NOW'S MY CHANCE!! (WHONK!!) OWWWW!!

NAMI: IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE MONEY, THERE'S NOTHING TO DISCUSS. NEXT TIME, BE SURE TO BRING IT.♡ SEE YA!♡

A: ....D-DANG IT! FOILED!! B-BUT...SOMEDAY, I WILL GET HER MEASUREMENTS!! WAIT FOR ME, YOUNG MAN! I'LL KEEP MY PROMISE!!